GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1976
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2010
ILLEGAL ENCROACHMENT AT PORTS
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Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not preventing illegal encroachment of land at major ports;

(b) the action taken against the persons responsible for this encroachment;

(c) the number of people against whom cases have been registered for act of illegal encroachment;

(d) the number of cases pending alongwith the date thereof;

(e) whether the officers of these ports and extortionists together collect the illegal amount from the encroachers; and

(f) if not, whether the matter has been investigated upon by the Central Vigilance Branch?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a): There are many reasons for encroachment of port land. In some ports like Mormugao Port Trust, the encroachment is since prior to the liberation of Goa. The encroachment has been made by fishermen community to earn their livelihood. In Chennai Port Trust, the encroachment has been due to lands being far away from the port. In JNPT because of its location far away from the main city, encroachment has taken place to meet the minimum requirements of floating population comprising of drivers and cleaners of vehicles for tea stalls, shops, etc.

(b): Ports keep a close watch and vigil over their lands. If any attempt to encroach or grab the port land is noticed, action is taken to drive out the encroachers, if required, by taking the assistance of local police. Even FIRs are lodged against trespassers to initiate police/legal action. In some ports ex-servicemen have been engaged to guard against further encroachment.

(c) & (d): The information is being collected from the ports.

(e): No such case has come to notice.

(f): Since, no such case has come to notice, the question of investigation by Central Vigilance Branch does not arise.